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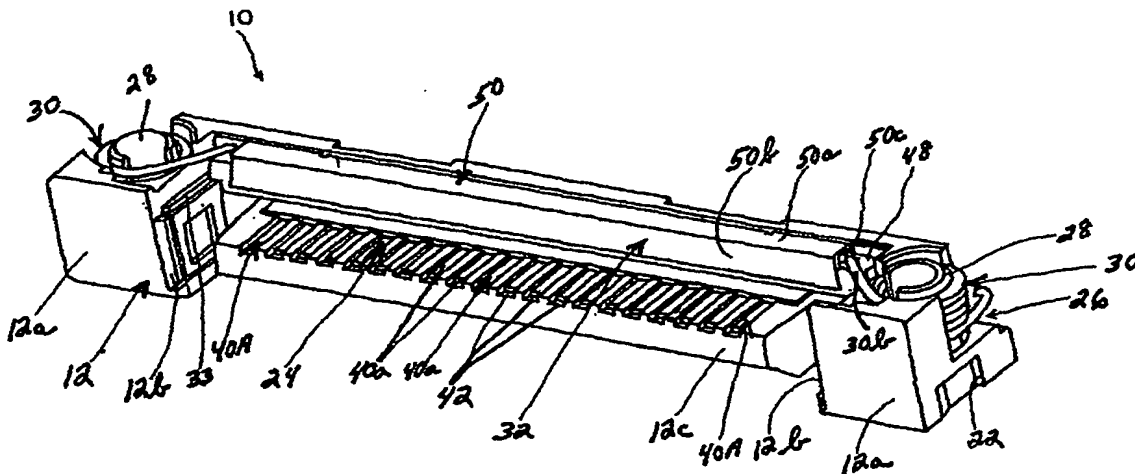
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(54) Title: ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR WITH GROUNDED SHUTTER MEMBER



(57) Abstract: An electrical connector includes a dielectric housing having a receptacle for receiving a complementary mating connector. A plurality of conductive terminals are mounted on the housing and have contact portions exposed in the receptacle for engaging appropriate contacts of the mating connector. A metal shell is disposed about at least a portion of the housing. A shutter plate is movably mounted on the housing for movement between a closed position and an open position. In the closed position, the shutter plate substantially closes the receptacle to prevent inadvertent engagement of foreign objects with the contact portions of the terminals. In the open position, the shutter plate allows mating of the complementary mating connector. At least a portion of the shutter plate is conductive to dissipate static electricity at the receptacle. At least one spring is mounted on the housing for biasing the shutter plate toward its closed position. The spring is conductive and is electrically coupled between the conductive portion of the shutter plate and the metal shell to ground the plate to the shell.

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